



Testimony to the Public Health Committee

Submitted by Mag Morelli, President, LeadingAge Connecticut

March 20, 2013

Regarding

HB 6594, An Act Concerning Residential Care Homes and Definitions of “Nursing Home Facility” and “Medical Review Committee”

LeadingAge Connecticut, a membership organization representing over one hundred and thirty mission-driven and not-for-profit provider organizations serving older adults throughout the continuum of long term care including not-for-profit nursing homes.

Our members are sponsored by religious, fraternal, community, and municipal organizations that are committed to providing quality care and services to their residents and clients. Our member organizations, many of which have served their communities for generations, are dedicated to expanding the world of possibilities for aging.

On behalf of LeadingAge Connecticut, I would like to submit the following testimony.

HB 6594, An Act Concerning Residential Care Homes and Definitions of “Nursing Home Facility” and “Medical Review Committee”

LeadingAge Connecticut has many residential care home and nursing home members. We support this proposed bill because we believe that it will bring clarity to the statutory requirements of the two different licensed provider categories. We do, however, have some questions and technical corrections relating to the bill. For example, the bill would clarify that residential care homes are subject to certain provisions of the Patient’s Bill of Rights (Section 19a-550 of the General Statutes) that deal with Medicaid, or that apply when nursing services are provided, but residential care homes do not receive Medicaid reimbursement and are not required, under their licenses, to provide nursing services. In addition, the bill’s proposed amendments to Section 19a-550 relating to room to room transfers of Medicaid residents extend to chronic disease hospitals, another licensure category represented in our membership. We are not certain that these changes relating to chronic disease hospitals are needed or relevant.

We would be more than happy to discuss our questions and proposed technical corrections further with the Committee and other proponents of the bill.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

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